

Message

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Sent: 6/4/2014 1:08:21 PM
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Subject: PFOS Detections in R3 Public Water Supplies (PA, DE) - Special Salient Update

Issue Alert

Subject: Concentrations of Perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) at three Region 3 public water systems exceed EPA's provisional health advisory for drinking water of 0.2 parts per billion (ppb).

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Background: Results of recent sampling rounds under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) were posted Monday (June 2) to the UCMR website. As these chemicals are not currently EPA regulated, the nature and

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The UCMR requires mandatory sampling for selected contaminants to help determine the frequency of their occurrence and concentration in public water systems. The information, together with an assessment of the health effects associated with the contaminants, will be used to determine whether they should be regulated. Only eight PWS nationally appear to have had reportable detections of PFOS; in addition to the three locations mentioned above, two additional PWS in Region 3 have detections: another Artesian Water (DE) site, the Jefferson Farm Plant (0.18 ppb, 0.13 ppb), and Martinsburg, WV (0.0738 ppb).

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EPA's provisional health advisory (0.2 ppb) is for short-term exposure. Health risk assessments for PFOS and PFOA (perfluorooctanoic acid) are currently undergoing peer review; the risk assessments may ultimately result in further revisions to the health advisory, and would eventually be used for any potential rule-making for drinking water standards.

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